

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (previously presented): A method of managing processing resources in a mobile radio system, in which a first entity manages radio resources and corresponding processing resources, the processing resources being provided in a second entity separate from the first entity, the method comprising:  
  
transmitting, from the second entity to the first entity, a capacity credit, and a consumption law for updating the capacity credit as a function of at least a spreading factor; and  
  
updating at the first entity the capacity credit on the basis of the consumption law,  
  
wherein in the case of a variable spreading factor and/or a variable number of spreading codes, said updating is effected on the basis of a reference spreading factor and/or a reference number of spreading codes.
2. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said reference spreading factor is a minimum spreading factor.
3. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said reference number of spreading codes is a maximum number of spreading codes.

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4. (original): A method according to claim 2, wherein said minimum spreading factor has a predetermined value.

5. (previously presented): A method according to claim 2, wherein said minimum spreading factor is a function of the type of service in particular.

6. (previously presented): A method according to claim 2, wherein said minimum spreading factor is adjustable by operation and maintenance means.

7. (previously presented): A method according to claim 2, wherein said first entity corresponds to a controlling radio network controller, and said minimum spreading factor is signaled to the first entity by a separate entity corresponding to a serving radio network controller.

8. (original): A method according to claim 2, wherein said spreading factor has a calculated value.

9. (original): A method according to claim 8, wherein said calculated value is obtained from a parameter corresponding to a transport format combination set.

10. (previously presented): A method according to claim 9, wherein said first entity corresponds to a controlling radio network controller, said calculated value is calculated in the first entity from said parameter signaled to the first entity by a separate entity corresponding to a serving radio network controller.

11. (previously presented): A method according to claim 9, wherein said first entity corresponds to a controlling radio network controller, and said calculated value is signaled to the first entity by a separate entity corresponding to a serving radio network controller which calculates said calculated value from said parameter.

12. (previously presented): A mobile radio system comprising:  
a first entity which manages radio resources and corresponding processing resources; and  
a second entity providing the processing resources, the second entity transmitting to the first entity a capacity credit and a consumption law for updating the capacity credit as a function of at least a spreading factor;

wherein the first entity comprises means for updating the capacity credit on the basis of the consumption law, wherein in the case of variable spreading factor and/or variable number of spreading codes, said updating is effected on the basis of a reference spreading factor and/or a reference number of spreading codes.

13. (previously presented): A base station controller for managing radio resources and corresponding processing resources in a mobile radio system including a base station providing the processing resources, said base station controller comprising:

means for receiving from a base station a capacity credit and a consumption law for updating the capacity credit as a function of at least a spreading factor; and

means for updating the capacity credit on the basis of the consumption law, wherein in the case of a variable spreading factor and/or a variable number of spreading codes, said updating is effected on the basis of a reference spreading factor and/or a reference number of spreading codes.

14. (previously presented): A base station controller according to claim 13, wherein said base station controller corresponds to a controlling radio network controller, and said base station further comprising means for receiving a reference spreading factor and/or a reference number of spreading codes value signaled to said base station controller, a separate base station controller corresponding to a serving radio network controller.

15. (previously presented): A base station controller according to claim 13, further comprising means for calculating a reference spreading factor value from a parameter signaled to said base station controller by a separate base station controller.

16. (previously presented): A base station controller according to claim 13, further comprising means for receiving a reference spreading factor value signaled by a separate base station controller which calculates the reference spreading factor value.

17. (previously presented): The method according to claim 7, wherein said minimum spreading factor is signaled in a "Radio Link Set-Up" message.

18. (previously presented): The method according to claim 17, wherein said minimum spreading factor is signaled in an Information Element "Min UL Channelisation Code Length".

19. (previously presented): The mobile radio system according to claim 12, wherein said first entity corresponds to a controlling radio network controller and comprises means for receiving a minimum spreading factor signaled to said first entity by a separate entity corresponding to a serving radio network controller.

20. (previously presented): A mobile radio system according to claim 19, wherein said first entity comprises means for receiving a minimum spreading factor signaled to said controlling radio network controller by said separate entity in a "Radio Link Set-Up" message.

21. (previously presented): A mobile radio system according to claim 20, wherein said first entity comprises means for receiving a minimum spreading factor signaled to said controlling radio network controller by said separate entity in an Information Element "Min UL Channelisation Code Length".

22. (previously presented): A base station controller according to claim 14, comprising means for receiving a minimum spreading factor signaled to said base station controller, corresponding to a controlling radio network controller, by said separate base station controller, corresponding to a serving radio network controller, in a "Radio Link Set-Up" message.

23. (previously presented): A base station controller according to claim 22, comprising means for receiving a minimum spreading factor signaled to said base station controller, corresponding to a controlling radio network controller, by said separate base station controller, corresponding to a serving radio network controller, in an Information Element "Min UL Channelisation Code Length".

24. (new): A radio network controller comprising:  
means for receiving from a base station a capacity credit and a capacity consumption law,  
and

means for, in the case of a variable spreading factor, updating the capacity credit on the basis of a reference spreading factor.

25. (new): A radio network controller according to claim 24, wherein said reference spreading factor corresponds to a minimum spreading factor.

26. (new): A radio network controller according to claim 24, wherein said reference spreading factor is signalled to said radio network controller in a message “Radio Link Setup Request Message”.

27. (new): A radio network controller according to claim 24, wherein said reference spreading factor is signalled to said radio network controller in a message “Radio Link Setup Request Message”.

28. (new): A radio network controller according to claim 26, wherein said reference spreading factor is signalled to said radio network controller in an Information Element “Min UL Channelisation Code Length” of said message.

29. (new): A radio network controller according to claim 25, wherein, for a Physical Common Packet Channel (PCPCH), said reference spreading factor is calculated from a Transport Format Combination Set (TFCS).

30. (new): A radio network controller according to claim 25, wherein, for a Physical Common Packet Channel (PCPCH), said reference spreading factor is calculated from a Transport Format Combination Set (TFCS).

31. (new): A radio network controller comprising:  
means for receiving from a base station a capacity credit and a dedicated channels capacity consumption law, and  
means for, in the case of a variable spreading factor, updating the capacity credit on the basis of a reference spreading factor signaled to said radio network controller in an Information Element "Min UL Channelisation Code Length" of a message "Radio Link Setup Request Message".

32. (new): A radio network controller comprising:  
means for receiving from a base station a capacity credit and a common channels capacity consumption law, and  
means for, in the case of a variable spreading factor, and for a Physical Common Packet Channel (PCPCH), updating the capacity credit on the basis of a reference spreading factor calculated from a Transport Format Combination Set (TFCS).